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REPORT

to the

Haltwhistle Rural District Council

For the Year 1958

by



J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STAFF :

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. Prospect House, Hexham. Tel. No.: Hexham 245.	{ <i>Medical Officer of Health</i>
A. M. DICKSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 19th July, 1958)	{ <i>Public Health Inspector</i>
W. J. BLACK, M.A.P.H.I. (1st September, 1958)	{ <i>Public Health Inspector</i>
Mrs. E. THOMPSON	- - - <i>Clerk Typist</i>

*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District Council
of Haltwhistle :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st March, 1958.

The social conditions of the area have changed very little and show little change from year to year. The district is a large one, predominately rural, and the smaller villages are relatively isolated. The main occupations are mining, the manufacture of paint or chemicals, and agriculture, while stone quarrying provides steady but limited employment. The threat of closure is, however, over the local mines. One was closed during 1958, and there may well be further closures if the demand for coal continues to fall. The Council are concerned about the prospects of serious unemployment, as little suitable alternative work exists and as Haltwhistle suffered severely during the recession in the 1930's. It is to be hoped that the efforts they are making to attract suitable industry will be successful.

The population is virtually stationary, and although there was a natural increase during 1958, the births outnumbering the deaths, the population decreased by 10. One child died in infancy, and one mother died from causes associated with pregnancy. The general death rate was below the national average. More than half the deaths were due to diseases of the heart or circulation. There were 14 deaths from cancer, including one death from cancer of the lung. There were no deaths from tuberculosis. On the evidence of these figures the health of the community has never been better.

There were very few notifications of infectious disease during 1958, and they call for little comment. Influenza returned in the last month of the year, but though widespread it was not severe and caused no deaths.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis has been very widely accepted, over 90% of children under 15 and of expectant mothers being vaccinated. This is extremely good, particularly in an area where communication is not too good and considerable effort is sometimes required to attend sessions, and reflects credit on the enlightened outlook of so many parents. The acceptance rate among young people between 15 and 25 is not so good, but continues to rise.

1958 was the last year during which the Council will act as water undertakers, as during 1959 the service will pass to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company as part of the

comprehensive scheme for South-West Northumberland. The needs of the larger centres of population will be met adequately, but cost may prevent the inclusion of small or isolated communities.

A start has been made at improving sewage disposal facilities in the district, and a scheme for Longbyre has been approved. Other schemes are in course of preparation, and a list of desirable works has been made. The total cost is formidable, and some schemes exceed £500 per house. It is unlikely that the Ministry of Health will sanction these very expensive schemes, even if the Council are willing to undertake them. As in the case of water supply, each scheme will be given consideration on the grounds of need and cost.

The Housing situation is not so satisfactory. Four houses were built by the Council during 1958, and two by private builders, while over 60 houses went out of occupation. This high figure is largely accounted for by the fact that all known unfit houses in the area have now been dealt with and the occupants housed in Council houses built during 1957, but even so the balance is very unfavourable. It is the policy to build only houses that qualify for subsidy, and the building of houses for general use is almost at a standstill. It is hoped, however, to build a considerable number of houses for old people, and this shall ease the general situation. Improvement Grants continued to be given and are of particular importance in this area in bringing older property up to acceptable standards and keeping it in occupation.

Mr. A. M. Dickson resigned his appointment as Public Health Inspector in July on taking up an appointment in Manchester. He gave 11 years of excellent service, carrying out his duties willingly and efficiently. He is succeeded by Mr. W. J. Black, who came with a very good record and has already shown his ability in carrying out his many duties. There has also been a change on the clerical side, but no change in efficiency.

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest and support, and to the Clerk and other Officers for their co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Haltwhistle Rural District is 96,333 acres. The only town is Haltwhistle, the other centres of population being villages.

The estimated population for 1958 is 7,310, a decrease of 10 on the 1957 figure. The tendency appears to be a slow fall in population.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1958, was 2,368.

The rateable value is £59,160.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £220.

The following list of persons employed in various industries is virtually unchanged compared with 1955.

	<i>Males and Females over 15 years of age.</i>
Coal Mining	731
Paint, Varnish and Chemicals ..	416
Distributive Trades	224
Agriculture	228
Professional Services	170
National and Local Government ..	157
Quarrying	109
Building Trades	164
Transport and Garages	144
Pipe and Brick Works.. .. .	35
Bakeries	49
Miscellaneous	157

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The population of the Haltwhistle Rural District, estimated at 30th June, 1958, was 7,310. This is a decrease of 10 compared with 1957.

Birth Rate

At 14.22 live births per 1,000 population, the birth rate shows a decrease of .98 on the figure for 1957. It compares with 16.4 per 1,000 population for all England and Wales.

Of a total of 104 live births, 3 were illegitimate. There were 3 still-births, compared with 3 in 1957.

Infantile Mortality

There was one death of infants under one year, occurring in the first four weeks of life. The infant mortality rate is 9.61 per 1,000 live births, the rate for England and Wales being 22.5 per 1,000.

General Death Rate

A total of 76 deaths occurred during 1958, a decrease of 19 on 1957. When the comparability factor is applied, the death rate is 10.18 per 1,000 population. The figure for all England and Wales is 11.7 per 1,000 population.

14 deaths were due to Cancer, compared with 18 in 1957.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY.

Live Births	.. .. .	104
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	.. ..	14.22
Still Births	.. .. .	3
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still births	.. ..	28.04
Total live and still-births	.. .. .	107
Infant deaths	.. .. .	1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	.. ..	9.61
" " " " " " legitimate		Nil
" " " " " " illegitimate		9.61
Neo-Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	.. ..	9.61
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births		2.80
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	.. ..	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births		9.34

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Measles

There was one case of Measles in contrast to 199 in 1957.

Whooping Cough

2 cases were notified during 1958 compared with 40 in 1957.

Scarlet Fever

Thirteen cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during 1958, compared with 7 in 1957.

Tuberculosis

Three cases of Tuberculosis were notified, 2 cases Respiratory, as against 2 in 1957. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis.

Poliomyelitis

No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred during 1958 compared with none in 1957 and 1956, 5 in 1955, 6 in 1953.

Acute Pneumonia

No cases of Acute Pneumonia were notified during 1958, compared with eleven in 1957.

HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

(a) HALTWHISTLE WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Surgeon :	Mr. C. I. Raeburn, F.R.C.S. (Ed.)
Gynaecologist :	Mr. Linton Snaith, F.R.C.S.
Physician :	Mr. G. J. Murray, M.D.
Matron :	Miss E. R. Gibson, O.B.E.

This hospital, which includes a modern Maternity Wing, is under the Management of the Hexham and District Management Committee.

The Local House Committee—Chairman, Mr. G. E. Dent, meets on the first Friday of alternate months.

(i) *X-Ray Department.*

X-Ray examinations are carried out Mondays and Fridays at 1-30 p.m.

Consultant Radiologist :—Dr. Walker.

(ii) *Gynaecologist Out-Patient Department.*

Second Friday every month at 2 p.m.

(iii) *Surgical Out-Patient Department.*

Wednesdays, 12 noon.

(iv) *Medical Out-Patient Department.*

Alternate Tuesdays, 2-30 p.m.

(b) HEXHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Accommodation at this hospital is available for patients from this district. A number of medical cases for detailed investigation and some major emergency surgical cases are referred to this hospital.

Patients for out-patient Physiotherapy are treated at this hospital.

(c) CARLISLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.
WALKERGATE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, NEW
CASTLE UPON TYNE.

Cases of infectious disease requiring In-patient treatment are accommodated at the above hospitals.

Tuberculosis Service

(a) CHEST CLINICS.

Hexham General Hospital—Tuesdays from 9 a.m.
Tuberculosis Officer—Frederic L. Wollaston, M.R.C.S.

Open Sessions :

Tuesday	..	..	2—4 p.m.
Wednesday	..	..	6—7 p.m.
Friday	..	..	6—7 p.m.

(b) INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

(i) *Wooley Sanatorium.*

The standard of treatment at this hospital continues to be exceptionally high, and there is now no waiting list for admission.

(ii) *Stannington Sanatorium.*

25 children's beds are available.

Midwifery Service

(a) *Ante-Natal Care.*

Two clinics per month are held at the Haltwhistle Clinic by the local doctors.

(b) *Haltwhistle Hospital.*

The majority of the expectant mothers in the district are confined in the Haltwhistle Hospital.

The services of a visiting Gynaecologist, together with his staff, have proved of great assistance and are also available for emergency work.

Bowmer Bank Hostel, Morpeth, cares for unmarried expectant mothers.

(c) *Domiciliary Service.*

Two midwives reside at the Haltwhistle Nurses' Home, Allenbrae, Haltwhistle (Telephone 368).

Two cars are provided for the use of the Nurses in attending cases in this extensive district.

Home Help Service

The County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district.

Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required in cases of illness, but priority is given to domiciliary maternity cases.

More and more use is being made of the Service by old people.

County Orthopaedic Service

The Orthopaedic Clinic for Children is held at Hexham General Hospital every Tuesday at 10 a.m., and at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends on the fourth Tuesday every month at Hexham General Hospital and on the second Wednesday of every month at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic.

Child Welfare Service

Clinics are held at Haltwhistle Clinic every Thursday by the Child Welfare Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

Clinics are also held at Gilsland and Halton-lea-Gate every fourth Friday.

School Dental Clinic

Clinics are held every Monday and Thursday, and Friday of alternate weeks at Haltwhistle Clinic. The Dentist visits the various schools in the district.

Dental Officer :—Mr. Bodenham.

Public Health Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory, under the Director, Dr. Messer, is located at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is run and maintained by the members of the St. John's Ambulance Division, for the Northumberland County Council, and members of the Nursing Division act as attendants when required.

During the year 1958, 2,697 cases were handled, made up as follows :—

<i>Cases Transported by Ambulance :</i>			
Road Accidents	22	Mileage Covered	.. 688
Other Accidents	.. 16	Mileage Covered	.. 389
Invalids	.. .. 290	Mileage Covered	.. 6,238
			7,315
<i>Car Sitting Cases :</i>	.. 2,369	Mileage Covered	.. 37,923
			45,238
Total Cases	.. 2,697	Total Mileage	.. 45,238

The extensive use of this service is due to poor communications in the rural district and the necessity for transport from isolated places. As much as possible of the work is done by car.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Registrar : Mrs. F. Robinson.

Office : C.W.S. Building, Main Street, Haltwhistle.

Hours : Wednesdays, Saturdays :—11 a.m. to 12 noon. Thursdays : 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

TABLE I.

The following table shows the principal vital mortality rates for the years 1948—1957.

YEAR	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	General Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Death Rate from Respiratory T.B. per 1,000 Living
1949	18.17	16.40	30	.68
1950	15.52	13.65	60	.27
1951	14.10	12.25	37	.13
1952	14.02	13.89	38	.13
1953	14.35	12.36	—	.00
1954	13.36	11.84	43	.13
1955	14.56	13.22	39.6	.13
1956	14.27	13.20	30	.13
1957	15.20	12.71	28.57	.00
1958	14.22	10.18	9.51	.00

TABLE II.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DISEASE.	YEAR									
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Small Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	3	1	18	15	13	5	—	29	7	13
Whooping Cough ..	14	106	2	3	44	7	21	9	40	2
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	1	—	1	—	2	2	1	—	—
Measles ..	147	155	50	121	186	19	124	15	199	1
Pneumonia ..	4	3	4	5	7	1	—	—	11	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	1	1	—	9	6	—	5	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	8	1	—	—	9	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	172	268	83	157	258	36	162	54	257	18

TABLE III.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	NEW NOTIFICATIONS						DEATHS					
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

YEAR	Registered Births					Illegitimate Births (included in Registered Births)				
	Live Births		Still Births		Total	Live Births		Still Births		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1949	71	63	2	2	138	2	4	1	1	8
1950	65	51	4	1	121	1	5	—	—	6
1951	54	53	2	1	110	2	2	—	—	4
1952	66	40	5	—	111	2	1	—	—	3
1953	58	45	1	5	109	4	—	—	—	4
1954	51	42	—	—	93	1	3	—	—	4
1955	56	45	1	5	107	1	—	—	—	1
1956	52	46	2	—	100	—	3	—	—	3
1957	51	54	2	1	108	2	3	—	—	5
1958	51	53	1	2	107	1	2	—	—	3

TABLE V.
INFANT DEATHS.

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of age				Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks of age			
		M.	F.			M.	F.
Legitimate	..	—	—	Legitimate	..	—	—
Illegitimate	..	1	—	Illegitimate	..	1	—
		1	—			1	—

TABLE VI.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES

CAUSES OF DEATH.	1955		1956		1957		1958	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	—	2	5	2	1	1	1	3
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	3	—	—	—	4	—	1	—
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ..	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	3	8	1	9	2	5	3
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	18	8	6	14	9	10	9	8
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ..	13	5	13	10	10	7	9	4
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
20. Other Heart Disease	6	5	9	4	5	2	6	6
21. Other Circulatory Disease ..	4	4	2	3	2	3	2	2
22. Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
23. Pneumonia	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	—
24. Bronchitis	3	—	2	—	—	1	2	—
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	—
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
31. Congenital Malformations ..	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined disease	4	6	5	3	5	3	3	2
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ..	2	—	1	—	3	2	1	—
34. All other Accidents	—	3	—	1	3	2	1	—
35. Suicide	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	69	40	57	42	54	41	44	32

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA WATER SUPPLY

General

The various water supplies in the district were satisfactorily maintained throughout the year. Due to the wet summer the yield from the springs was practically constant throughout the year and no difficulties of supply were experienced.

Negotiations continued during the year with the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company in connection with the proposed joint water scheme for South West Northumberland to serve the Urban and Rural Districts of Hexham, Haltwhistle Rural District and part of Border Rural District. As far as the Haltwhistle Rural District is concerned, it is proposed that the existing undertakings be handed over to the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company who also propose to pipe additional water into the District by laying new mains and constructing additional service-reservoirs.

PARISH	No. of Houses Direct from Mains	Estimated Population	No. of Houses Served by Standpipes	Estimated Population
Bardon Mill ..	64	183	6	17
Coanwood ..	49	157	6	19
Featherstone ..	43	129	8	24
Greenhead ..	54	157	9	26
Haltwhistle ..	1,140	3,521	30	93
Hartleyburn ..	69	214	19	59
Henshaw ..	144	415	24	70
Melkridge ..	44	145	11	36
Plenmellor with Whitfield ..	26	83	2	6
Slaggyford ..	57	177	1	3
Thirlwall ..	139	445	6	19
	1,829	5,626	122	372

Samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from the following supplies and the appropriate steps were taken to eliminate contamination on the supplies where pollution was found :—

Date.	SUPPLY.	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result
9/6/58	Cockmount Hill, Tap in scullery.	Private	.. 8	Suspicious
	Chesters Farm, Collecting Chamber	Private	.. 35	Unsatisfactory
	Chesters Farm, Pumphouse.	Private	.. 25	Unsatisfactory
	Birch Trees, Council Offices.	Public	.. 1	Satisfactory
14/7/58	Chesters Farm, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 180+	Unsatisfactory
	Chesters Farm, No. 2 Collecting Chamber	Private	.. 180+	Unsatisfactory
	Chester Farm, Overflow from Pump- house.	Private	.. 180+	Unsatisfactory
	Chesters Farm, Tap in scullery, Cockmount Hill.	Private	.. 11	Unsatisfactory
2/9/58	Chesters Farm, Spring, No. 1 Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
9/9/58	Thornhope, Slaggyford, Spring, No. 1 Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 3	Suspicious
	Thornhope, Slaggyford, Spring, No. 2 Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 90	Unsatisfactory
	West Hotbank Farm, Spring, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
	Low Morwood, Bardon Mill. Spring.	Private	.. 1	Satisfactory
6/10/58	Todhillwood Farm, Spring, Tap in kitchen.	Private	.. 160	Unsatisfactory
	Todhillwood Farm, Spring, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 160	Unsatisfactory
	Todhillwood Farm, Spring, Balancing Chamber.	Private	.. 160	Unsatisfactory

Date.	SUPPLY.	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result
25/11/58	Todhillwood Farm, Land Spring, Overflow.	Private	.. 1	Satisfactory
	Todhillwood Farm, Spring, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 3	Suspicious
	Todhillwood Farm, Land Spring, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
5/12/58	Chesters Farm, Spring, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 5	Suspicious
	Chesters Farm, Spring, Tap in kitchen.	Private	.. 5	Suspicious
	Huntersfield, Whit- field, Land Spring.	Private	.. Nil	Satisfactory
	Huntersfield, Whit- field, Land Spring, Collecting Chamber.	Private	.. 1	Satisfactory

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

Four private slaughterhouses are operating in the District—3 in Haltwhistle and 1 in Gilsland.

Most of the meat inspection is carried out outside normal working hours, as slaughtering is usually done during the evenings.

The slaughterhouses have been well maintained and no nuisance has arisen during the year.

The quality of the animals killed has been excellent and the number of casualty animals dealt with has again been very low.

There has been a further drop in the percentage of animals affected with Tuberculosis, this being largely due to more and more local farmers going over to Tuberculin Tested herds.

The arrangements for the disposal of condemned meat have been satisfactory. A total of 2 tons 14½ cwts., was condemned during the year.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	437	5	3	1,646	219	—
Number Inspected	437	5	3	1,646	219	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole Carcasses condemned..	1	—	—	4	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	79	3	—	26	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cystericerci	18.28	60.00	—	1.82	1.82	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1	1	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. .. .	.22	20.00	—	—	.45	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following table shows the amount of meat and other foods condemned during the year :—

UNSOUND FOOD.	Surrendered	Seized	Legal Proceedings
Beef (Home Killed) Stones	10	—	—
Beef (Imported) „	—	—	—
Mutton (Home Killed), „	13	—	—
Mutton (Imported) „	—	—	—
Pork (Home Killed) „	11	—	—
Pork (Imported) „	—	—	—
Game Lbs.	—	—	—
Poultry „	—	—	—
Fish „	—	—	—
Fruit Cases	—	—	—
Canned Goods Tins	11	—	—
Bacon Lbs.	—	—	—
Cheese „	—	—	—
Butter „	—	—	—
Lard „	—	—	—
Eggs, Frozen	—	—	—
Cooked Meat(Canned), Tins	18	—	—
Sausages Lbs.	—	—	—
Offal (Home Killed) Stones	127	—	—

Milk and Dairies

Number of Distributors of Milk registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949—1954	7
Number Licensed for the Sale of Pasteurised Milk under the Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949—1954	3

Ice Cream

Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of Ice Cream	2
Number of Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of pre-packed Ice Cream	10

Food Hygiene Regulations

Inspection of food premises were made during the year and any matters requiring attention were dealt with, without the necessity of formal action.

Food Premises

The following shows the number of food premises, by type of business in the District :—

Butchers	7
Bakehouses	5
Cafes	4
Snack Bars	2
Confectioners	3
Fishmongers	2
Fried Fish Shops	2
General Stores	23
Greengrocers	5
Hotels and Licensed Premises	19
Chemists	3
Sweets and Tobacconists	10

HOUSING

The following table shows the number of houses completed during the year :—

New Houses completed during the Year.	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	4	—	4
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By private persons	—	2	2

1. ACTION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

A. Houses Demolished.

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Person	Families
In Clearance Areas.			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	—	—	—
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc. .. .	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas.			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17(1) H.A. 57	4	7	3
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health .. .	—	—	—
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been under local Acts .. .	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders .. .	—	—	—
B. Unfit Houses Closed.			
Number			
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 .. .	2	6	2
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, H.A. 1957 .. .	—	—	—
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, H.A. 1957 .. .	—	—	—
Other houses closed not included above .. .	—	—	—

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by Local Authority	35	—
(12) After formal notice under :		
(a) Public Health Acts .. .	—	—
(b) Secs. 9 & 16 Housing Act, 57 .. .	1	—
(13) Under Sec. 24, Housing Act, 1957 .. .	—	—

2. FAMILIES REHOUSED DURING 1958.

Slum Clearance	4
Without Separate Homes	3
With Separate Homes	4
From Council Houses (Exchanges etc.) ..	3
Overcrowded Abated :	
Statutory	2
Moral	1
Number of Outstanding applications for Council Houses on the Authorities list at year end ..	166

3. LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES.

Total Number of Houses owned by Local Authority	453
Number of Temporary Dwellings included above	—

4. HOUSING ACT, 1949—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

	No. of Separate Houses
Applications submitted to Local Authority ..	28
Applications rejected	1
Applications approved	27
Total number of applications approved since the inception of the scheme	153
No. of houses not included above, approved for grants under the Hill Farm & Livestock Rearing Acts, 1946-54	6

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection service, carried out by direct labour, has operated satisfactorily during the year.

Collections are made from most of the reasonably accessible properties in the District, twice weekly in Haltwhistle, and once per week in the remainder of the area. The total number of houses covered is approximately 2,028.

One 7 cubic yard Karrier Bantam Vehicle with driver and two loaders is used in Haltwhistle and Plenmellor, and a 7 cubic yard Bedford vehicle with driver and one loader covers the more outlying parts of the district.

Sanitary pails are collected by the refuse collection staff from various parts of the district still without adequate sewerage systems. This unpleasant task is carried out as efficiently and with as little nuisance as possible, but the provision of sewerage systems in the villages at present without them is the only answer to this problem.

Three refuse tips are in use and these have been satisfactorily maintained by the Tip attendant who also acts as a relief driver and Rodent Operator.

RODENT CONTROL
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS, 1949

Work under this heading proceeded during the year.

A part-time Rodent Operator is employed but as he acts as spare driver, illness amongst the refuse collection staff reduces the effective time spent on this necessary service. Despite this fact no serious complaints of rat infestation occurred during the year, numerous treatments being carried out by the operator on Council Properties and private houses.

The report as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is given in the following table :—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (in.Council Houses)	(3) All other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
Number of Properties in Local Authority's Dist.	14	2,066	145	2,225	302
Number of properties in- spected as a result of :-					
(a) Notification ..	—	20	8	28	—
(b) Survey under the Act	23	120	10	153	20
(c) Otherwise (<i>e.g.</i> when visited primarily for some other purpose	—	112	109	221	42
Total inspections carried out including re-inspect- ions	80	397	197	674	—
Number of properties in- spected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats					
Major ..	2	—	—	2	—
Minor ..	3	45	6	54	14
(b) Mice					
Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	6	2	8	—
Number of infested prop- erties treated by the Local Authority ..	5	51	8	64	—
Total treatments carried out including re-treat- ments	23	63	10	96	—
Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act :—					
(a) Treatment ..	—	—	3	3	—
(b) Structural Work .. (<i>i.e.</i> , Proofing) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a Notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Proceedings ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of ' Block ' con- trol Schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are to be enforced by Local Authority ..	2	6	—	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	21	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	3	4	—	—
TOTAL	40	31	—	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ..	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	4	6	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	6	—	4	—

WATER SUPPLY

Sources closed, or discontinued	Nil	No. of Houses	..	..	Nil
New Service provided :—					
(a) By Local Authority	6	No. of Houses	..	..	6
(b) By Private Owner	2	No. of Houses	..	..	5

**SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS
AND INSPECTIONS**

Housing Inspections	..	..	..	..	68
Applications for Council Houses	..	..	..	..	82
Housing Act, 1949 (Improvement Grants)	..	..	..	..	117
Housing General	..	..	..	..	20
Rent Act, 1957, Certificate of Disrepair	..	..	..	..	4
Sanitary Accommodation	..	..	..	..	60
Drainage	..	..	..	..	99
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	76
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	32
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	27
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	55
Factories	..	..	..	..	31
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	45
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	6
Nuisances	15
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	199
Miscellaneous	41
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			TOTAL	..	977
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